

INSTITUTO DE QUIMICA
FISIOLOGICA Y ~~PATOLOGICA~~

ESCUELA DE MEDICINA

UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE

Borgoño 1470, Santiago, Chile

August 31, 1957

ROTMAN

Dear Josh:

If you are standing while reading this letter, you better sit down. I am sending you under separate cover the ms on the activation !! I am sure you didn't expect it anymore.

To finish it I had to surpass a tremendous subconscious block against writing it. Why this is so I don't know.

I would appreciate it very much if you read it and correct it. I hope it will not be necessary to rewrite it, but if it will be the case, you can give it to Margaret of the Enzyme Institute to do it.

From your card, and from a friend who is working with Pollock, I heard of your trip to Europe. Did you have a good time? I didn't feel to write you until I could have the ms ready, that's the reason of the long silence.

You can see from the ms that I have been quite easy on Monod. I plan to synthesize some radioactive TMG to have ~~in~~contestable data, although what I have is very conclusive because Monod has used K-12.

My experiments with labeled DNA have not been fruitful. It is imposible to obtain DNA with ~~more~~ less than 0.7 % of depolymerized material. I am afraid that it is an artifact of the TCA precipitation. I have tried perchloric with the same results. If this is the case the problem is doomed because it will not be possible to discriminate between DNA or nucleotides entering the cell unless one gets more than 0.7 % of the DNA in the cell, which is ~~far~~ larger from what I found. I will make a new preparation of DNA trying to use the technique of isolating nuclei by lysing the cells with lysozyme. Do you know anything new on this method?

With regard to our lives, we all are doing alright. Raquel is completely recovered and she is taking psychology studying like "mad". Ruth J. is talking all over the house although she doesn't want to speak English. We had a maid whom she didn't like and who spoke only English (she was a russian escaped from red China), since then every time she hears English she mentions the maid's name. The only bad new in our house has been the loss of a police dog we had, we really felt it because he had only six months and we nourished him from one month old.

Right now Ochoa is visiting Chile for eight days. He has been the only living link with the US scientific world which I have had since I came. Unfortunately, he can't gossip about the people I know.

~~xxxxxx~~ Best regards to Esther and you from Raquel and I,

P.S. Please give the ms to Hank before it is sent in. Thanks for everything.

sincerely,

Boris

P.S. Could you send me a slant of W2244 and W2242 to do the TMG experiments? A letter to Porter is enclosed, do you accept the job? The date is missing in Porter's letter, also the paper # in the ms.